



# Exeter Christian Reformed Church

332 Huron Street West  
Exeter, Ontario, NOM 1S2  
Telephone: 519-235-2990  
Website: [www.exetercrc.on.ca](http://www.exetercrc.on.ca)

Pastor: Jay Crossen  
Pastor's Email: [pastorjay@exetercrc.on.ca](mailto:pastorjay@exetercrc.on.ca)  
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 12:15-4:15  
Publishing deadline: Thursday, 9:00 am  
Administrative E-mail: [bulletin@exetercrc.on.ca](mailto:bulletin@exetercrc.on.ca)

Worship: 10am

Sunday, April 5, 2026

Pastor Jay Crossen

Musicians: Steve, Bill, Lori,  
Joanne

## God Gathers Us in His Presence

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

\* Song **Low in the Grave He Lay** LUYH # 186

God's Greeting:

\* Song **Christ the Lord is Risen Today** LUYH # 182

## God Renews Us In His Grace

Easter Litany

Song: **Christ the Lord is Risen Today** LUYH # 182

Lord's supper

Song:

## God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Children (Dismissal age 3-to Grade 6) for Sunday School , Catechism Grade 7 & 8

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: John 20: 19-22

Message: Practices of Resurrection People

\*Song: **Because He Lives** LUYG # 361

## God Calls Us to Respond with Prayers and Offerings

Announcements

Prayer of God's People

Offering: The Common Plate

Offertory **Special Music**

## God Sends Us Out to Serve with His Blessing

\*God's Sending and Blessing

\*Song: **Lift High the Cross** LUYH # 264

\* Indicates to please stand if you are able LUYH stands for Lift Up Your Hearts (the red song book in the pews)

## Gathering for Worship

**LARGE PRINT** copies of the Lift Up Your Hearts hymn book are available for use during worship. They are located on the bookcase in the foyer next to the administrator's office. Large print copies of songs not in LUYH are available from the ushers.

**Nursery and Sunday School** programs will be available during the church service for those parents who wish their children to participate. We have classes for children aged 3 to Grade 6. Children will be dismissed during the worship gathering. The Education Committee, Sunday School, and Nursery, with the support of Council, have developed a plan to safely care

**Valet service** - designed for worshippers with mobility challenges, valet service is available for free with advance arrangements. Simply drive your car up to the east door (under the car port) and one of our friendly drivers will meet you, help unload your mobility device and park your car for you! If you are interested, please contact Mike Buckman in church, by phone (519-236-7940), by text (519-630-7827), through Facebook or via email at [michaelbuckman@hotmail.com](mailto:michaelbuckman@hotmail.com)

### Upcoming Services:

<u>April 5:</u>	Pastor Jay	(Easter Lord's Supper)
<u>April 12:</u>	Bill DeJong	(from Redeemer University)
<u>April 19:</u>	Pastor Jay	
<u>April 26:</u>	Pastor Jay	(75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service)

Exeter CRC strives to be a healthy community. If you are feeling unwell in any way join our worship gathering on-line. We continue to worship together as a community of God's people. **YouTube:** <https://bit.ly/3yYa4ze>



Exeter CRC is accessible for those with hearing impairment. If you are hard of hearing, please have an usher direct you to the sound booth for an assistive device.

## From the Deacons

The offering this Sunday is The Common Plate

<u>April 12:</u>	Christian School Bursary Fund
<u>April 19:</u>	Resonate's Where Most Needed Fund
<u>April 26:</u>	Youth SERVE project

The Deacons will collect your offering during the worship service. You can also respond with your offering by e-Transfer to [ecrcgiving@gmail.com](mailto:ecrcgiving@gmail.com). Please state in the memo the cause(s) you are supporting. Coupons for the offering are available in the office; please ask one of the deacons for assistance if you are interested in buying coupons.

**Common Plate** A donation email has been set up for Common Plate it is as follows [donations@Exetercommonplate.org](mailto:donations@Exetercommonplate.org)

**Easter Food Drive** - This Easter season, the Deacons are hosting a food drive from **Sunday, March 22 to Sunday, April 5** to support the **Exeter Food Bank**. Bring non-perishable items to the collection bin located by the front entrance. Some suggestions: canned soup, canned vegetables, cereal, school snacks, rice, pasta, sauces



**MemberCare+** is a free counselling program for Exeter CRC members provided through By Peaceful Waters. Please call **519-886-8577** or email [mail@bypeacefulwaters.ca](mailto:mail@bypeacefulwaters.ca) for more information.

## Our Church Family

**Calendar of Events:** One of the features of our website is a calendar of meetings and events to help keep you up to date. Click on this [link](#) to have a look at everything happening at ECRC.

**Prayer Request:** As a church family we are thankful for answered prayers. Adrian & Maria made it home. We pray for a full recovery and patience through the process.

**Prayer Request:** As a church family we extend our sincerest condolences to Harry, Josh & Sarah Knip & families on the passing of Marg this past week. Our prayer is that all may feel God's peace during this very difficult time of great loss. Visitation will be held at Haskett Funeral Home, 456 Main Street South, EXETER on Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> from 2 – 4 and 6 – 8 PM. Marg's funeral service will be held at the Exeter Christian Reformed Church, 332 Huron Street West, Exeter on Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM. Interment Exeter Cemetery.

**For those who have a prayer request or are sharing a thanksgiving, please feel free to include it on the church's Facebook page, or please contact your elder or the church office if you wish to include it in the bulletin or The Bridge App.**

## Exeter CRC Announcements

### **Celebrating 75 Years of God's Faithfulness at Exeter CRC!**

With great excitement we are making plans for a special weekend of celebration to take place April 24-26, 2026, D.V. In your mailboxes, you will find an invitation card with more details. Please mark your calendars and help spread the word to former members and friends of Exeter CRC. Extra invitations are available by the church office – feel free to take a few to share. Please remember to RSVP to the Saturday night dinner by March 31<sup>st</sup>! RSVP to [exetercrc75@gmail.com](mailto:exetercrc75@gmail.com) or talk to one of the planning committee members (Dan Vanderlaan, Sheila Vanderlaan, Sylvia Heyink, Sarah Mulder, Kathryn Langendyk, Bert Visscher). Payment for tickets can be e-transferred to [ecrcgiving@gmail.com](mailto:ecrcgiving@gmail.com) (please put in the notes that it is for tickets).

### **75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Memories Wanted**

Our church is preparing to celebrate 75 years of ministry, fellowship, and faithful service. As we look ahead to this milestone, we'd love to look back as well. We invite you to share memories, stories, or photos from over the years – whether from long ago or just yesterday. From meaningful moments to those we still smile about, your memories help tell the story of our church family. Thank you for helping us celebrate where we've been and all that God has done among us. Please submit by March 15<sup>th</sup>. Email to [exetercrc75@gmail.com](mailto:exetercrc75@gmail.com) or place in Kathryn Langendyk's mailbox.

**GEMS Rally** will be held at the Exeter CRC on **Saturday, April 11/26**. There will be over 200 girls and leaders attending from Blyth, Clinton, Listowel, Stratford, Vanastra, and Wingham. Volunteers will be needed. There will be many different ways to help out like in the kitchen with food prep/serving, assisting with workshops, group leaders, set up/tear down and clean up at the end of the day to name a few. We are still in the planning stage working out our volunteer needs/schedule. If you can lend a hand, reach out to any of the ECRC GEMS leaders. In His Service, Leah Branderhorst, Joanne Branderhorst, Lauren Hoonard, Sylvia Hoonard, Karen Knip, Jody Mulder, and Deb Westerik.

**Musicians Needed:** there are a few weeks this summer that our regular musicians are not available to lead us during the worship service. We are seeking musicians who can lead us in worship. Whether it be with voice, piano, or guitar; for one week or two. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please talk to Sylvia Hulshof.

**Nursery:** The nursery needs a few more adult volunteers and helpers. If you are able to help in this ministry, please contact Cassidy Heyink.

**VASES NEEDED!** If you are doing some spring cleaning and have some clear glass vases and bud vases you are wanting to get rid of... we would happily reuse them for some upcoming events at church! Simply place in the "Vase donations" box in the kitchen or talk to Sarah Mulder! Thanks in advance!

**Coffee with Pastor Jay:** Coffee with Pastor Jay is back again!! Pastor Jay has been here almost 2 years!! and he would like to provide an opportunity for those who would like to connect with him!! This is an opportunity to talk about your faith formation, wrestle with scripture, or perhaps just to catch up with one another. Please feel free to sign up on the sign-up sheet outside my office. Thanks!

**Catechism** :Next session of catechism will be running March 22,29, April12,19 May 3& 10. Hope to see you there!

**The Nursery Committee** is once again collecting donations to bless members of our church family who are expecting babies this year. If you would like to contribute, a donation tin will be available at the back of the sanctuary. Thanks - Katelyn & Cassidy

**Thank you** This last week marked 2 years since we moved here to Exeter and became part of this church community. We would like to thank you all for the many ways you have been an encouragement and support to us in our ministry here at Exeter CRC. From help with our home, surprise gifts of food, words of encouragement, childcare, text messages of affirmation on a Sunday afternoon, and most recently a surprise night away to relax and reflect. We are very thankful to be part of Exeter CRC and are grateful for your continued support and encouragement. What a blessing! With love and gratitude, Pastor Jay and Marique Crossen

**Craft & Connect:** Come with your current craft project to the church library every Tuesday afternoon (1-3pm) in April for a time of connection, community, and creativity.

**Men's Breakfast:** For all men young and old there will be a men's breakfast on Saturday April 18th at 8 a.m. Collin Wielinga will be speaking. So come on out and enjoy a good breakfast and some social time. Please RSVP to pastor Jay or Mike Zandwyk so we know how much food to prepare. Thanks.

### From the CRCNA and the Broader Community

**Teen Challenge:** Tickets are now available! for the Annual Spring Gala Banquet for the Ontario Men's Centre, Teen Challenge Canada! It will be a special evening featuring powerful stories of transformation, a delicious dinner, and an exciting choir performance by the Men's Choir from Teen Challenge! **When:** Friday May 1st **Where:** Hellenic Community Centre **Ticket price:** \$90/ticket; table of 8 for \$650 **Time:** Doors open @ 4:45pm; Dinner @ 6pm **Purchase tickets today:** <https://www.hopebeyondaddiction.ca/event/omc-gala>

**Huron Christian School:** We are delighted to invite you to our upcoming Grandparents and Grandfriends Day at Huron Christian School on April 10, 2026. It would be a joy to have you join us for this special occasion. The day will begin at 10:30 a.m. in the school gym, where you will enjoy a short program. A delicious lunch will follow, and afterward you are warmly welcome to visit the classrooms and spend some time seeing what the students have been learning. Kindly RSVP by phone or email at 519-482-7851 or [office@huronchristianschool.ca](mailto:office@huronchristianschool.ca).

**Prayer Request** Al Brown. Please keep Al, Ruth, and family in your prayers. Al has recently been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer in his liver and lung. Al is not a member of Exeter CRC but attends Centralia Faith Tabernacle. The Lord put on his heart to pray for the Exeter CRC about 10 years ago and has been faithful to that calling. He has been joined by a group of 4-5 members who come together every Tuesday morning to pray for our church, the members, and the community around. Please keep him in your prayers.

**Groundwork: The Daughters of Jerusalem and Jesus' Crucifixion** - At the ninth Station of the Cross, Jesus gave a warning to women he called "Daughters of Jerusalem." Then comes the tenth Station of the Cross: Jesus' crucifixion.

Join Groundwork as we study Jesus' words in Luke 23:26-38 and Matthew 27:39-43 and discuss his meaning, what he accomplished on the cross, and what it all means for our lives today. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**Huron Christian School Will Planning 101:** Will your spouse get everything if you die? Not if you don't have a Will. We all know we should have our affairs in order – yet many of us have not yet put together a proper Will or kept the one we have up to date. We are here to help!

Come join us at Huron Christian School on Wednesday, April 22nd at 7:00pm. Learn about this question and so much more at the Will Planning 101 Seminar we are hosting along with our Foundation.

Register by emailing [alumniandfundraising@huronchristianschool.ca](mailto:alumniandfundraising@huronchristianschool.ca)

**SOCO Beach Project Update**This week, meet the first three participants from the SOCO 2026 cohort. Calling all young adults - save the dates for Sunday Night SOCO and the SOCO Camping Retreat. Tickets for the spring SOCO fundraiser are coming soon—another performance of the one- woman show, "The Downs". Read all about it:

<https://mailchi.mp/southcoastbeachproject/soco-update-march-26-8574748>

**Young Adults:** "What are you doing May 2nd at 7:00pm?! Stratford CRC would you to invite you to join us for a fun and lively Square Dance Night hosted by our Young Adults. Dancing, laughter, and community—no experience needed! We will have a caller to guide you, live music to keep things moving, and a photo booth to capture the memories. Open to all ages 18+, food and drinks provided, and it's all by donation! Bring friends. We can't wait to see you there!"

**This Week April 5-11**

<u>Sunday</u> 10am Worship Sunday School age 3 to Grade 6	<u>Monday</u> NO Gems  Choir 7:30	<u>Tuesday</u> Common Plate Meal 5:30 – 7:00 pm Precious Blood Catholic Church NHS 7pm Exeter Villa Crafting 1-3 Library Youth 7-9	<u>Wednesday</u> Funeral @ 11:00	<u>Thursday</u> Cadets 7 pm	<u>Friday</u> Gems Rally Set up	<u>Saturday</u> Gems Rally Cadet O’rama (Clinton)
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**SERVING SCHEDULE**

	<b>April 5</b>	<b>April 12</b>	<b>April 19</b>	<b>April 26</b>
<b>Elder</b>	Gerard Steenbeek	George Poortinga	Leo Weverink	Al Vanderlaan
<b>Deacon</b>	Joy, Anthony	Anthony, Dianne	Dianne, Marian	Marian, Joy
<b>Coffee Clean-Up</b>	Wendy W, Anne Z, Joanne & Leah Branderhorst	Eugene & April Nathan and Rachel	Ken & Trinia Darren & Janelle	Joan & Dave Bill & Cathy
<b>Greeters</b>	Kathryn, Sam V.	Wibbina Toonk, Yvonne V.S.	Scott & Wendy Stafford	Norma V., Clarence T.
<b>Ushers</b>	Colton, George	Betty, Joy	Tim, Al	Sylvia, Leo
<b>Children’s Message</b>	N/A	Karen	Leo	Bert
<b>Nursery</b>	Rolinda deRuitter, Sheila Vanderlaan, Wendy Stafford	Curtis Heyink, Sarah Mulder, Avery Poortinga	Melissa VanSoest, Daren Bouman, Avery Mulder	Katheryn Langendyk, Angela Nyman, Lily Denhollander
<b>Sunday School</b>	Joyce Pelley, Janelle Bouman, Jolene de Boer, Tanya Steenbeek, Jordan B	Joyce Pelley, Mikayla Vink, Jolene de Boer, Tanya Steenbeek	Joyce Pelley, Mikayla Vink, Jolene de Boer, Tanya Steenbeek, Jordan B	Only for 3,4- and 5-year-olds Janelle Bouman
<b>Valet</b>	Greg Langendyk	Tim De Weerd	Albert Hummel	Bill Branderhorst
<b>Tech Booth</b>	(P) Dan (A) Job (V) Tony	(P) Sam (A) Trevor (V) Dan	(P) Ladon (A) Adrian (V) Gerard	((P) Greg (A) Job (V) Aaron
<b>Hall Monitor</b>	George Poortinga	Joy DeWeerd	Al Vanderlaan	Leo Weverink